Rs. 4.16 crores has so far been incurred by the Government of India on the Second SAARC Summit held at Bangalore. Some bills are still pending for payment which will make only a marginal difference to the total expenditure.

(b) A sum of Rs. 257.39 lakh was given in grant to State Government as per their request based on estimates prepared by them. The State Government had stated that the balance amount of expenditure would be met from their own resources. Now the State Government have estimated their total expenditure as Rs. 11.54 crore and have requested for a further reimbursement. The claim is being examined by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government.

Irrigation Projects of Maharashtra

1165. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of major and medium irrigation projects of Maharashtra which are lying pending with Government for approval with their details; and

(b) what are the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Out of two major and eight medium irrigation projects, two major and one medium projects have been appraised in Central Water Commission. The remaining seven medium projects are not included in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Rise in Prices of Black and White T.V. Sets

1166. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of black and white T.V. sets have recently been increased;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) There has been a marginal increase in the price of B&W TV sets. Indian Television Manufacturers Association (ITMA) have informed the Government that an increase in the price of Black & White TV sets has become inevitable in view of the increase in price of B&W picture tubes and other components.

(c) The following measures have been taken by Government to ensure good quality and reliability of TV sets to promote indigenous TV industry to keep the prices of the product at reasonable level:

(i) Issuing industrial approvals liberally with viable production capacity so that economies of scale are derived and healthy competition encouraged.

(ii) Broadbanding of Industrial Licence approvals for entertainment electronics in the audio and video product categories.

(iii) Electronic components industry has been delicensed and import of technology in this sector is liberally permitted.

(iv) Re-endorsement of industrial capacities with reference to the minimum economic scale of operation has been allowed for Colour Television production.